(b) whether the Government propose to augment the capacity of these stations;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(d) the number of artists employed or sponsored at these stations who belong to Madhya Pradesh and number out of them who are from outside the State;

(e) whether the programmes telecast are being prepared at the television station, Bhopal; and

(f) if so, the achievement made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Bhopal has four radio Transmitters having 50 KW SW, 10 KW MW, 3 KW FM and 1 KW MW powers, respectively, and two TV Transmitters, ane HPT (10 KW) for primary channel and one LPT for the metro channel. In addition, DDK Bhopal has also a studio centre and an Earth Station for satellite uplinking.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No regular artist is being employed at DDK Bhopal, However, casual artists are engaged from time to time depending upon programme requirements. The number of local artists booked is 1770 and that from outside the State is 37.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The programmes cater to a large and extensive target audience including Rural/Urban, Women, Children, Industrial Workers, Tribals, etc. and have received widespread appreciation during the last three years.

Survey for New Rail Line in Assam

3045. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey for railway line on the south bank of the Brahmaputra from Goalpara *via* Dudhnoi to Guwahati for which the people of Assam are agitating;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The line on the south bank of Brahmaputra from Jogighopa to Guwahati *via* Goalpara and Dudhnoi is already at an advanced stage of construction and is expected to be completed and opened for traffic by Dec' 98.

Post Offices in Kerala

3046. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post Offices in Kerela, district-wise;

(b) the number of Post Offices are working in rented buildings in Kerala, district-wise; and

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government to construct own building against the rented buildings?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The district-wise number of Post Offices in Kerala as on 31.3.1996 has been shown in the attached Statement-I.

(b) The number of departmental Post Offices functioning in rented buildings in Kerala Postal Circle, district-wise, is given in the attached Statement-II.

(c) The department constructs buildings for accommodating departmental Post Offices as per the availability of funds, land and other resources.

Statement I

Details of number of post offices in Kerala - District-wise

S.No.	Name of District	Number of Post Offices		
		Urban	Rural	Total
1.	Trivandrum	87	330	417
2.	Quilon	44	315	359
3.	Pathanamthitta	23	288	311
4.	Alleppey	48	242	290
5.	Kottayam	50	359	409
6.	Idukki	10	290	300
7.	Ernakulam	98	283	381
8.	Trichur	90	398	488
9.	Palghat	54	396	450
10.	Malappuram	32	399	431
11.	Calicut	78	340	418
12.	Wynad	2	159	161
13.	Cannanore	91	287	378
14.	Kasaragod	19	215	234
	Total	726	4301	5027
15.	Lakshadweep	-	10	10
16.	Mahe of Pondicherry	4	-	4
	Grand Total	730	4311	5041